

Dear Sir,

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Competition and Markets Authority's (CMA) provisional decision following the market investigation into the land mobile radio network services for public safety in Great Britain. After consideration of the report and the CMA's findings and recommendations, the following observations are offered.

From the documentation available, the NFCC's interpretation is that the proposed price control remedy is designed to address the reported circa £160m per annum supernormal profits being generated by Motorola and for this price control to be implemented at some point in 2023. Given that the report suggests that supernormal profits have been made by Motorola for a number of years, the NFCC are interested as to whether there has been consideration, or if there is any scope, for any form of remedy in retrospect for the period prior to the proposed price control and other remedies taking effect.

Subject to the price control remedy being implemented, the NFCC are keen to understand if it would be applied universally, or if it would be varied or nuanced according to each of the blue light contracts or elements within them. The NFCC preference would be for universality.

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As previously communicated to the CMA, the NFCC is supportive of relevant remedies, subject to any change from the current position taking into account the four criteria outline below. Remedies:

- must not detrimentally affect the continuity of service, levels of service, security and resilience of the current mission critical Airwave and future ESN systems
- must not pose additional risk to communities and responders or additional operational risk to responding agencies
- must not negatively impact the timeline for implementing ESN in its entirety, i.e. completion of transition onto ESN and off Airwave for the three emergency services
- must offer the greatest overall value to the public purse.

Should you wish further information or clarification please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours Faithfully